

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 064050
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAB-02 SIG-01
MMO-01 /100 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:JPBECKER:ZC
APPROVED BY ARA:CBRAY
S/AB:EBUNKER
S/AB:SMLINOWITZ
ARA/PAN:RRWYROUGH
NSC:RPASTOR
S/S:PSEBASTIAN
DOD:WGDOLVIN

-----230425Z 048740 /63

P 230125Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY
USCINCSO PRIORITY
GOV PANCANAL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064050

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 064050

SUBJECT: PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS

1. SINCE THEIR RETURN TO WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 23, AMBAS-
SADORS BUNKER AND LINOWITZ HAVE REPORTED ON THE FEBRUARY
ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS IN MEETINGS AT THE WHITE HOUSE
(PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR); DE-
PARTMENT OF STATE (SECRETARY, DEPUTY SECRETARY); AND DE-

PARTMENT OF DEFENSE (SECRETARY, DEPUTY SECRETARY, JCS, SECRETARY OF ARMY).

2. IN ALL MEETINGS, NEGOTIATORS DESCRIBED ATMOSPHERE OF TALKS, REACTIONS OF PANAMANIAN REPRESENTATIVES TO US PROPOSALS AND POSITIONS TAKEN BY PANAMA. TWO DELEGATIONS EXPLORED IN DEPTH FOR THE FIRST TIME RELATED ISSUES OF DUPLICATION/NEUTRALITY/POST-TREATY DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS. WHILE NO AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED, DISCUSSIONS HAVE PREPARED WAY FOR FURTHER ROUNDS OF TALKS.

3. IN WHITE HOUSE SESSION, NEGOTIATORS EXPLORED NEXT STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. PRESIDENT INSTRUCTED THE TWO AMBASSADORS TO INFORM THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP OF THE RESULTS OF THE MOST RECENT ROUND. HE DECIDED THAT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS INITIATIVES AND TRIPS TO BRIEF LATIN AMERICAN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT (VENEZUELA, MEXICO, COSTA RICA AND COLOMBIA) ON THE STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS - WOULD BE APPROPRIATE BUT LEFT TIMING OF THESE STEPS AND OF FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS TO THEIR DISCRETION.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY, AMBASSADORS BUNKER AND LINOWITZ HAVE

A. MET WITH SPEAKER O'NEILL AND A NUMBER OF SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN TO REPORT ON THE NEGOTIATIONS;

B. TESTIFIED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION BEFORE THE HOUSE MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE;
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 064050

C. MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LATIN AMERICA OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE PREPARATORY TO A PANAMA VISIT BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE;

D. BRIEFED US AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS ANDREW YOUNG.

IN ADDITION, THE TWO AMBASSADORS ARE EXPECTING TO TESTIFY ON APRIL 1 BEFORE THE LATIN AMERICA SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

5. FOR SOME TIME, THE DEPARTMENT HAS FELT THAT A LIMITED NUMBER OF BRIEFINGS BY THE NEGOTIATORS OF HIGH-LEVEL LATIN AMERICAN LEADERS WHO HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AND HAVE CLOSE RELATIONS WITH TORRIJOS WOULD PROVIDE SOME BALANCE IN THE L.A. PERCEPTION OF OUR NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES. THE NEGOTIATORS ARE NOW PLANNING A TRIP TO CARACAS AND BOGOTA MARCH 23 - 27 TO

BRIEF PRESIDENTS CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ AND LOPEZ-MICHELSON.
THEY HOPE TO VISIT COSTA RICA AND MEXICO AT A LATER DATE.

6. A NEW ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS HAS NOT YET BEEN SCHEDULED.
AN INFORMAL PRIVATE MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATORS WAS HELD
IN WASHINGTON MARCH 13.
VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE064050
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPBECKER:ZC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770098-0945
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770330/aaaaazwn.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9391aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3022117
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, XX, PANAMA CANAL
To: ALL POSTS USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9391aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009